AGENDA

WLS ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Terry L. Kirchner, Executive Director

BUSINESS MEETING
Catherine Draper, WLS President

Approval of 2016 Minutes

Election of Trustees

District II: Briarcliff Manor, Ossining, Tarrytown   (To full term ending 12/31/2022)
District IX: Bronxville, Eastchester, Pelham, Tuckahoe  (To full term ending 12/31/2022)
District XII: Peekskill  (To full term ending 12/31/2022)

PANEL DISCUSSION
Creating the Future with:
Judith Johnson, NYS Regent, 9th Judicial District
Bernard Margolis, NYS Librarian & Assistant Commissioner for Libraries

GOVERNMENT: New York State Library, Division of Library Development; U.S. Institute of Museum & Library Services; Westchester County; Westchester County Department of Senior Programs & Services

PUBLIC: Con Edison; Entergy; Hope For Youth Foundation; Keystone Property Group; SirsiDynix; TD Charitable Foundation; The Max & Victoria Dreyfus Foundation; The Thomas & Agnes Carvel Foundation; The H.W. Wilson Foundation; The Westchester Community Foundation
Judith Johnson was appointed to the Board of Regents for a five-year term effective April 1, 2015. She has devoted her professional life to public education. Regent Johnson’s teaching and leadership roles span seven very diverse city and suburban districts. During President Clinton’s second term in office she was appointed by Secretary of Education, Richard Riley, to serve initially as the Deputy Assistant Secretary and later as the Acting Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education. Regent Johnson returned to K-12 education and served for ten years as School Superintendent for the city of Peekskill, becoming the first woman and African American to hold that position. In 2012 she took the temporary helm of the Mount Vernon City School district while the search for a permanent superintendent continued. In each position she has left behind enduring changes that continue to inspire those who followed her.

Public recognition of her work began in 1990 when she was selected as one of the 100 Executive Educators in America. Since that time she has been recognized by over 20 organizations. A much sought after speaker, Johnson has published op-ed and professional articles and offered testimony before state and federal legislative committees. She has earned advanced degrees during the course of her career.

Bernard Margolis began serving as New York State Librarian and Assistant Commissioner for Libraries in January 2009. Reporting to the Commissioner of Education, Mr. Margolis administers the New York State Research Library and the Division of Library Development. In partnership with the state's 73 public and school library systems, the State Library delivers library services to 19.5 million people served by New York's 7,000 academic, public, school and special libraries.

Mr. Margolis came to the State Library from his previous post as President of the Boston Public Library (BPL), Boston, Massachusetts, where he served from 1997 to 2008. The oldest municipal public library in the country, with 27 neighborhood branches, Mr. Margolis' achievements included: expansion of branch library hours; appointment of a children's librarian in every branch; creation of a nationally recognized Homework Assistance Program and online tutoring program; implementation of Reading Readiness to prepare preschoolers for school success; creation of local history centers in branch libraries; creation of the award-winning Norman B. Leventhal Map Center and the development of a collection conservation program. Under Mr. Margolis' leadership, BPL secured millions in federal funds for technology improvements and many foundation grants, designated gift funds, and major bequests.

Mr. Margolis holds a BA in Political Science and an MA in Librarianship, both from the University of Denver. Prior to moving to Boston, he served as Director/CEO of the Pikes Peak Library District in Colorado Springs from 1988 to 1997.
The 57th Annual Meeting of the Westchester Library System (WLS) was held on Thursday, November 17, 2016, at WLS’s new Headquarters at 570 Taxter Road, Elmsford, NY.

There were 71 directors, trustees, and guests representing WLS and 32 of its member libraries. Executive Director Terry Kirchner welcomed all and introduced Peter Howard and Dan Richards from Keystone Property Group and Dennis Noskin and Amanda O’Leary from Dennis Noskin Architects, members of the relocation team, and publicly thanked them and the other members of the WLS relocation team for the wonderful work they did in

Mount Kisco......................666-8041
Mount Pleasant..................769-0548
Mount Vernon....................668-1840
(Central Library)
New Rochelle....................632-7878
North Castle (Armonk)........273-3887
North Salem.....................669-5161
Ossining..........................941-2416
Peekskill.........................737-1212
Pelham.............................738-1234
Port Chester-Rye Brook.......939-6710
Pound Ridge......................764-5085
Purchase..........................948-0550
Rye................................967-0480
Scarsdale........................722-1300
Somers............................232-5717
Tarrytown........................631-7734
Tuckahoe.........................961-2121
White Plains.....................422-1400
Yonkers...........................337-1500
Yorktown..........................245-5262
making our new space a reality. In addition, WLS Staff were thanked for their efforts in limiting service disruptions to the libraries and the public during the move. It was a tremendous effort.

Dr. Kirchner recalled the various service accomplishments from 2016. Thanks to additional support from the NYS Legislature, increased Library Construction Aid allowed 19 library applications—the most ever. WLS Minigrants continued to give libraries new opportunities to try new program offerings and gain valuable knowledge from their experience. WLS also served as a champion for new library products, such as TotalBoox, helping to create new models of library service. The WEBs program, Westchester Seniors Out Speaking (WSOS), TASC Connect!, Family & Early Literacy, Westchester Connections and their transformative interactions are challenging the ways of measuring value and have shown WLS how to tell our story in different ways instead of with the usual quantitative data. With help from a Westchester Community Foundation grant, WLS’s April Celebrating Westchester Libraries’ Event focused on Telling our Stories with the creation of full-page patron stories from the member libraries. NYS Assemblyman Thomas Abinanti [91st District] gave a few remarks and thanked the libraries for being today’s community centers.

WLS President Cathy Draper welcomed all and opened the WLS Business portion of the Meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: President Cathy Draper called the Business Meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.; introduced the WLS Trustees who were in attendance; and thanked the outgoing WLS Trustees Naseem Jamali, Deborah Fay and Luke Vander Linden for their dedicated service.

ELECTION OF NEW TRUSTEES: Sue Neale, Chair of the WLS Nominating Committee, proposed the following slate of trustees who were nominated by their represented libraries and are willing to serve:

- District I [Croton, Montrose, Yorktown]
  Karen Zevin (to a full term ending December 31, 2021)

- District VI [Ardsley, Dobbs Ferry, Greenburgh, Hastings-on-Hudson, Irvington]
  Susan Morduch (to a full term ending December 31, 2021)

- District III [Bedford Hills, Chappaqua, Katonah, Mount Kisco]
  Vacant (to a full term ending December 31, 2021)

There being no nominations from the floor, the above Trustees were elected to the WLS Board of Trustees on a motion by Edris Scherer and seconded by Julie Mills-Worthy. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF THE 2015 ANNUAL MEETING: The minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting were approved on a motion made by Sue Neale and seconded by Dave Donelson. The motion passed unanimously.

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 10:13 a.m. on a motion made by Sean Ryan and seconded by Edris Scherer. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Draper introduced Alison Macrina, the featured speaker. Ms. Macrina is a librarian, privacy activist and founder and director of the Library Freedom Project, who shared a great deal of information regarding surveillance and its threats to privacy, which has always been one of the library communities’ core values. The post Edward Snowden era raised questions from the public about privacy like never before. In an attempt to answer those questions, Ms. Macrina started the Library Freedom Project; and she has made it her mission to share best practices, guidelines, strategies and tools for surveillance self defense. She also spoke about the Tor browser as well as other privacy tools and steps needed to take back digital privacy in the age of big data.

Dr. Kirchner thanked all for coming and for their support of WLS over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Elise Burke
Recording Secretary